

# CARRIZOZO OUTLOOK

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## THE UNDERWOOD TARIFF BILL

One of the Classic Blunder of the Present Administration is Now Before the Court of Custom Appeals

### DECISION IS LOOKED FOR AT AN EARLY DATE

The court is expected to interpret the meaning of the provision in the Underwood Tariff bill proposing to give a five per cent discount in customs duties on merchandise imported in American vessels. Thus far that clause has failed in its purpose, just as the tariff measure of which it is a part failed to provide adequate revenue.

Enacted October 13, 1913, it failed on its first test, and that test applied, too, by the then Attorney General less than 30 days after the bill was signed.

No sooner had the tariff bill been presented to the Secretary of the Treasury for administration than a doubt arose in his mind as to the validity of the five per cent discount provision. He appealed for advice to Attorney General McReynolds, who is now on the Supreme Court bench. The provision was pronounced inoperative.

"The five per cent discount to American vessels cannot be given," is the language of the Attorney General quoted by the Secretary, "without impairing the stipulations of existing treaties between the United States and various other powers, and consequently the subsection is inoperative."

Acting on this opinion the Secretary of the Treasury issued an order to customs collectors, instructing them to make no allowance of discount on duties under this provision.

Importers who had relied on the law appealed to the Board of General Appraisers. Their ruling resulted in further confusion, and neither side being satisfied, the case was taken to the Court of Customs Appeals, more than a year after the law had passed.

The Democratic Committee report on the five per cent provision defined it as "a discrimination in favor of American shipping, designed to build up our merchant marine and keep at home millions of dollars now being paid to foreign vessels to carry our products to foreign markets."

Yet although they fully realized the tremendous importance of this measure which they said involved millions of dollars, they lacked the foresight to consult their own Attorney General as to the possibility of enacting it into law. They had a vague idea of what they wanted, adopted a vague method of trying to secure it, and by careless guess work threw the whole matter into the courts.

Furthermore, even if the principle of discrimination had not been questioned by the Attorney General the provision was so clumsily drafted that three different interpretations have been placed upon it. Counsel for the importers claimed

one interpretation, government attorneys claimed another, and the Board of General Appraisers furnished a third different from all.

During the debate in Congress on this provision, Republican members repeatedly warned the Democrats that, quite apart from its policy, its phraseology was meaningless and should be corrected to become effective.

It was so much breath wasted. The majority stubbornly refused to accept either caution suggestion or amendment. The result has been that this very important clause has thus far proven mere useless verbiage, except to cause litigation and expense to all concerned. About the only purpose it has served is to emphasize the fact that the inefficient methods of Democratic legislators have made it impossible for them to put even their own ideas into effect.

### WATER HEARING WEDNESDAY

A. S. Kirkpatrick of the state engineers office was here on Wednesday from Santa Fe sitting as a referee in the water matter of Neighbauer vs. Nabours involving water on Three Rivers. Senator Fall who recently purchased the Neighbauer place appeared for himself with witnesses while Mr. Nabours was represented by Lee B. Chase of Oscura. Testimony was taken as to the priorities of right on the Three Rivers branch.

The case of Mrs. E. Mathews vs. Gov. McDonald involving the waters at Jake Springs which was also to have been heard before Mr. Kirkpatrick, was continued to June 7th, owing to the illness of the protestant. Mr. Kirkpatrick will return at that time to hear the case and also to make some examinations on Three Rivers.

### AN UNEXPECTED FIND

Justice and Mrs. Massie had quite an exciting experience late Saturday night. Hearing a noise inside the yard investigation disclosed not the expected cow or horse, but a man lying prone on the ground just inside the board fence. Dr. Walker was immediately summoned as the man appeared dead; the doctor found him indeed a dead Mexican—dead drunk—and he was promptly escorted to his proper environment at the "carcel" across the street.

### PAINFUL ACCIDENT

Saturday evening Mrs. Joe Palmer experienced a most painful accident and one which might easily have been fatal. Conversing with Mrs. Walter Wanner she inadvertently stepped backward into an open cellar, the door being for the moment raised, falling headlong into the pit. Prompt medical attention disclosed a broken rib and several cuts and bruises. However Mrs. Palmer was able to partake of Mrs. Wanner's supper to which she had previously been invited and has since steadily improved to the gratification of her friends and neighbors.

## NEWS OF OUR CITY SCHOOLS

The Commencement Exercises Which Have Been in Progress all Week Will Close To-Night

### CLASS OF FIVE TO RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

Tonight's program at the High School will mark the close of the year's work. This evening a class of two boys and three girls will receive the diploma, the highest honor the school can bestow following an address by Gov. W. C. McDonald. It is also hoped that Mr. Rupert F. Asplund of the State Department of Education will be on hand at this time, and take part in the exercises. A record attendance is expected.

Wednesday night's program was most highly enjoyed by the large crowd in attendance. At this time the thorough musical training which has been given in the grades the past year was made manifest, although Miss Hodgson, the supervisor of music, was too ill to direct the choruses, the children performed their parts with much credit to themselves and their instructor.

The four act playlet, "Down in Dixie," was most vividly enacted by the eighth grade, assisted by pupils from the seventh grade. The actors and actresses showed much careful and intelligent training. Mrs. W. L. Gumm in her graceful style presented the promotion certificates to the class graduating from the eighth grade into the High School, and the program was completed.

Thursday evening was class day and every number was delivered with credit and received a hearty round of applause.

The salutatory was delivered by Emuel Anderson. The speaker not only welcomed the audience to the evening's exercises, but took occasion to point out the value of high school training and to urge loyalty to the home institution.

Following this number Miss Hodgson and Mr. McCurdy rendered in a most pleasing manner the duet, "Oh, That We Two Were Maying," which was well received.

The next number, a medley quartette by Lewis Adams, Allison Stevens, Joe Finley and Emuel Anderson, showed much faithful preparation by the delightful and wholesome rendition. Another quartette number was presented later in the evening by the above.

The class historian, Iona Stevens, next performed her prerogative with great success, as each member was recognized with a complete outline of his or her school life. Many humorous events in the life of each added zest and interest to a well prepared history of the class of 1915.

At this point the High School Chorus rendered Piusotto "Welcome Pretty Primrose" and in a thoroughly musical and meritorious manner from the standpoint of the audience.

The Class Poet, George Barber, then took the floor and delivered to the delight of the audience his poetical composition "Characteristic of High School Pupils" in which his class played the roll of Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior and showed in a graphic way the pathway of the high school student of today.

A piano solo by Dorothy McCarty the accompanist of the evening was then rendered with rare skill and technique and much credit to herself.

Lea Kennedy the Class Prophet, foretold many interesting things

concerning the various members of her class in a well delivered article entitled "Fifteen Years from Today" In the opinion of the prophetess the class will by the year 1930, be holding places of honor and trust in the great world which now lies untried before them.

Superintendent McCurdy followed this interesting number with a vocal solo. In response to an encore he sang the last movement in German, to the evident delight of the Teutonic element in the audience.

The first honor graduate, Olivia Kennedy, then began the valedictory and her work was exceptionally indicative of much careful thought and artistic diction. In a clear and deliberate tone of voice she recognized each class, and all school officials in a most gracious manner, and the usual note of sadness prevailed each sentence of the address.

After the farewell was said the High School Chorus took the platform and sang the closing song.

The whole program contained the preeminent theme of loyalty to school and conscientious endeavor to meet the world with due preparation. It is safe to predict a decided uplift from the prevailing sentiment of this commencement season.

### VISITS CAPITAN SCHOOL

Mrs. Gumm visited the County High School at Capitan last week and found everything in excellent shape—enthusiasm rampant and excellent work being done, with exceptionally good results accomplished. The young ladies of the domestic science class have entertained their friends and mothers at two luncheons—selected the menu and prepared the tempting morsels "all themselves." They will stage a class play on the evening of the 28th instant, and at the closing exercises they will appear in dresses they themselves have made.

Mrs. Gumm started for a visit to the schools on the Rio Grande, but was compelled to turn back on account of the high water.

### CIVIC LEAGUE

The Carrizozo Civic League that has been holding its meetings on Monday have decided to change the meeting day and will in the future hold all meetings on Tuesday. All members are urged to be present at a meeting called for next Tuesday, the 25th, to make preparations for Memorial Day. The meeting will be held at the Crystal theatre.

### REBEKAHS ATTENTION

The local Rebekah lodge will serve ice cream and cake to its members on Thursday evening, May 27th, at their hall over the Exchange bank. All members are asked to be present.

### NOTICE

Having been appointed as road tax collector for Carrizozo Precinct No. 14, I am desirous of collecting in all 1915, road tax for said precinct as soon as possible. Please give this matter your immediate attention.—J. F. Dalton.

ago for \$3 or less. A "deck" of cocaine, the small package generally used in the illegal drug trade, sells now for \$4.50 to \$5, and the users get less than he used to for 25 cents. It is now sold in smaller packages containing only a few doses, for 50 cents or \$1. The drug now is often adulterated.

## ANTI-DRUG LAW WORKING GOOD

Forty to Sixty per cent of the Men and Women Now in Prison are Adapted to the Drug Habit

### VICTIMS RECEIVING FREE TREATMENT

Since the strict enforcement of drastic anti-drug laws in New York has made it almost impossible for dope fiends to buy narcotics the results are both sad and interesting.

"An appalling situation in which drug maniacs are allowed at large," is Ernest K. Coulter's characterization of the present state of affairs in New York. Mr. Coulter represented Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt in the long fight to suppress drug traffic in that city. He was asked to tell what ought to be done to handle the many cases of drug victims who, deprived of cocaine, heroin and other habit forming drugs, are committing acts of violence and filling the city prisons and hospitals.

"I don't believe the people of the city realize the seriousness of the situation," said Mr. Coulter. "It must be understood that these men who rob, assault and kill to get morphine or some similar drug are insane. They are the most dangerous kind of lunatics when the craving comes over them. The drug means more to them than life, and they will never hesitate to sacrifice lives—others' and their own—to get the stuff."

"The situation which has arisen is perilous in the extreme, but it is not unexpected, and ample warning of what would come about if the city did not prepare for it, was given a year ago before the Boylan law became effective on July 1, last. The city was told then that it must prepare to handle hundreds—yes, thousands—of unfortunates."

"Commitment of drug habitues to hospitals had been found to be a flat failure, because the hospitals were too overcrowded to keep these cases a sufficient length of time. In addition experience had shown that the hospitals were not the proper places for drug cases, because the clinical or medical treatment needs to be followed by a prolonged social, physical and mental rehabilitation. The prisons were then overloaded with drug users, and we found that in nearly every case the prison terms were too short for treatment to effect anything like a cure."

"Consider this: From 40 per cent to 65 per cent of the prisoners are drug users. Leaving out those sentenced for this very thing, from 30 per cent to 50 per cent of persons convicted of other offenses are found to be drug users. They have to be treated for this, but the workhouse sentences, for instance, are so short that nothing adequate can be done to rid them of the habit."

The Boylan law, the Vanderbilt and other anti drug crusades and to some extent the war has increased drug prices as much as 1,000 per cent.

A year ago a six ounce can of opium cost the "popey" or smoker from \$6 to \$10. Now it costs from \$35 to \$55. Sold by the "toy," the smallest and most popular measure, it brought \$1 for first class opium or 50 cents for lower grade. Now Lai Yuen, the best opium, costs \$6 a "toy." Recently 300 six ounce tins of this opium sold for \$15,000 and the buyer expected to make \$3,000 profit.

Cocaine, now selling for \$22 an ounce, could be obtained a year